

CONGREGATION AHAVATH ACHIM WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



January 6-13, 2017/ 8-15

Tevet 5777

Parsha Vayigash

Schedule of Services:

Friday, January 6, 2017

Shacharit	6:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv	4:20 PM
Candle Lighting	4:21 PM

Shabbat, January 7, 2017

Shabbat Shacharit	9:15 AM
Latest Shema Time	9:39 AM
Mincha	12:25 PM
Shabbat Ends	5:23 PM
Ma'ariv	5:38 PM

Sun-Thur, January 8-12, 2017

Mincha 2:10pm at Kollel

Shacharit	Ma'ariv
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Fast of Tevet

Sun	8:30 AM	4:15 PM*	A
Mon	6:30 AM	7:40 PM	K
Tue	6:45 AM	7:40 PM	K
Wed	6:45 AM	7:40 PM	B
Thur	6:30 AM	7:40 PM	A

A - Ahavath Achim
B - Bikur Cholim on
Park & Capitol Ave., Bpt
K - Kollel on Arlington St., Bpt

Friday, January 13, 2017

Shacharit	6:45 AM
Mincha/Ma'ariv	4:25 PM
Candle Lighting	4:29 PM

Torah Reading Pages

Bereishit	44:18-47:27	251-267
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Haftarah

Ezekiel	37:15-28	1144-1145
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Don't Wait for the Call:

Especially for the next few weeks, a number of our regular Minyanairs will be out of town. We need your help to ensure we have a Minyan every day. Don't wait for the call. Show up. Sign up (there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board). Come early, come often, and **Help Keep Our Minyan Strong!**

Early Shabbat Mincha:

Immediately after Kiddush, we will have a short Rabbi's Class (at approximately 11:45 am), followed by Mincha (at 12:25 pm). We will return about 15 minutes after Shabbat ends (at 5:23 pm) for Ma'ariv (at 5:38 pm). Please remember to recite "**Baruch hamavdil bein kodesh l'chol**" in order to end Shabbat before driving or doing other work that is prohibited on Shabbat.

Shabbat Kiddush

Kiddush this Shabbat is being sponsored by Jay Dimand for the yahrtzeit of his father, Mitchell Dimand, z"l (Elimelech ben Yaakov).

Torah Message for Parsha Vayigash

Yaakov prepares his family for the prolonged sojourn in Egypt by sending Yehudah, the greatest of the brothers, ahead to "prepare" a place in Egypt (Bereishis 46:28). The Medrash brings two explanations on what was to be prepared. Either Yehuda was to build a Yeshiva in order that the family of Yaakov will be able to learn Torah upon their arrival in Egypt. Alternatively, the Medrash says, Yehuda was to build a "house" for Yaakov and his family. We can rightly understand why such an important figure as Yehudah was charged with the monumental task of building a Yeshiva, but why send Yehudah to build a simple house? The commentaries explain that Yaakov felt it necessary to send no less than Yehuda to set up a home for him. In Yaakov's worldview, a home was no less 'spiritual' than a study hall or a shul. He viewed every aspect of life as being imbued with spirituality. Therefore, it was essential that the foundations of Yaakov's dwelling be set up by someone as great as Yehuda. The *Divrei Yitzchak* elaborates on one of the spiritual aspects of setting up a home that Yaakov had in mind in sending Yehuda. He explains that Yaakov did not want his children to settle amongst the spiritually corrupt Egyptians, rather he intended that they settle in their own neighborhoods with

modest homes, where they could be raised in a Jewish environment. This mission was so vital that he could entrust it to none other than Yehuda, the proven leader of the family. This Midrash reminds us of a vital life lesson – that spirituality is not confined to the study hall and shul. Spirituality must permeate even the seemingly 'mundane' aspects of our lives, including the location of our home, and the way that we conduct ourselves in our home. A person can fall prey to the mistake of viewing his home as a solely physical dwelling and forget that it must also be elevated into a *Mikdash Meat* – a mini Temple.

May we all merit to elevate our homes into such a great place.

Minyan Attendance Update:

Congratulations! Shabbat morning minyan was complete and we began shacharit davening on time. Let's keep up the good "on time" arrival so that our Shabbat morning minyan can continue in timely manner every week.

Sadly, Friday evening was a disaster... no minyan. We understand that Friday night minyan is very early and it can be very difficult. Please try your very best to help us make our Friday night minyan. Please let Rabbi Moldovan or the Gabbaim know if you can or cannot help with Friday night minyan. Thank you.

Congregation Ahavath Achim on Social Media: Don't forget to check the Ahavath Achim website for current updates. You can also read and post to the shul's Facebook page or Twitter

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Chanuka Melave Malka Success

The Chanuka Melave Malka was greatly enjoyed by the community. We got together to enjoy the Menorah lighting, the tasty latkes, blintzes, lasagna, and donuts, and the company of friends. Thank you to the Augenbrauns and Kleins for sponsoring the event. And thank you to Sholom Mizrahi, Elaine Schiller, Sara Klein, and all those who helped make the event run smoothly. \$250 was raised to support victims of the recent fires in Israel.

Fast of Tevet, Sunday January 8:

The Tenth of Tevet marks the onset of the siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar, the King of Babylonia, and the beginning of the battle that ultimately destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple of Solomon, and sent the Jews into the 70-year Babylonian Exile. The date of the Tenth of Tevet

is recorded for us by the prophet Yechezkel, who himself was already in Babylonia as part of the first group of Jews exiled there by Nebuchadnezzar, 11 years earlier than the actual destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem itself.

Davening Schedule for Fast of Tevet:

- Fast Begins: 6:06 am
- Shacharit: 8:30 am
- Mincha/Ma'ariv at Ahavath Achim: 4:15 pm
- Fast End: 5:24 pm

Ahavath Achim Winter Lecture Saturday Night, January 7th - 7 PM

Rabbi Moldovan will begin the Ahavath Achim Winter Lecture Series this Saturday night, Jan. 7th, at 7 pm. His topic for discussion will be "Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People." Steve and Debbie Lozanov are hosting this event at their home, 3404 Park Avenue, corner Thorne Street. Everyone is invited to attend. This is sure to be an evening of interesting discussion on a difficult question topped off with a fun social evening. Please do call Debbie and Steve to let them know if you are planning to attend.

Tu B'shvat Shabbos Lunch – Shabbat, February 11

We will be celebrating this Tu B'shvat with a catered Shabbat lunch in Zimmer Hall. Come celebrate the birthday of the trees with our community. Keep Saturday February 11th free for the event. Stay tuned for more information and RSVP details.

Refuah Shelemah to: *Kenneth Epstein, Rabbi Moshe Epstein, David Gordon, Yitzy Hain, Fred Schwartz, and Diane Shinbaum.* May G-d grant each a speedy and complete recovery.

Yahrtzeits for the week:

Saturday, January 7 – **Mitchell Dimand** (Father of Jay Dimand)

Wednesday, January 11 – **Samuel Fink** (Father of Miriam Parker)

Tuesday, January 10 – **Ellen Lemberger** (Mother of Lee Dickens)

Wednesday, January 11 – **Joyce Goldberg** (Wife of Bernard Goldberg)

Yahrtzeits begin at Ma'ariv the evening before. Please make an extra effort to ensure a minyan for those saying Kaddish. **Be there for others, and they'll be there for you.**

If you would like an Aliyah on the Shabbat before the Yahrtzeit, please make sure you are in Shul before Torah Reading. If you arrive late, we cannot guarantee you an honor.
